



**CALIFORNIA
HIGH-SPEED RAIL
AUTHORITY**

TO: Chairman Pringle and Authority Board Members

FROM: George Spanos, Legal Counsel, Attorney General's Office

DATE: December 31, 2009

**RE: Conflict of Interest Code
Agenda Item 3 Regular Monthly Board Meeting; Agenda Item 4
Executive/Administrative Committee Meeting**

The Authority's Conflict of Interest Code was last revised in 2001. Staff recommends that the Authority consider possible revisions to the Conflict of Interest Code to reflect changes in staffing and changes in the Authority's activities, particularly taking into account the recent approval of the bond act. A copy of the current version of the Conflict of Interest Code is attached. A revised proposed version incorporating suggested changes will be presented at a subsequent meeting for board approval.

It should be noted that "[a] Conflict of Interest Code shall have the force of law and any violation of a Conflict of Interest Code by a designated employee shall be deemed a violation of [chapter 7 of the Political Reform Act]." A conflict of interest code can establish more stringent standards than otherwise required by law, but obviously cannot effectively establish looser standards.

Board Recommendation:

Revise the Authority's Conflict of Interest Code as determined by Executive/Administrative Committee.

Attachments:

- Current Conflict of Interest Code